

NIA 20 2014 Winter Assembly  
December 13, 2014  
LaFox, IL  
(Host District \_\_61\_\_)

The meeting was called to order at \_9:00\_\_

Robert S read the *Why Do We Need A Conference?* by the late Bernard B. Smith from the AA Service Manual.

A quite time was taken followed by the Serenity Prayer

New Attendees

Diane S Gsr Grapevine Chair D28, Andrew S Gsr D70, Alicia E Literature Chair D41, Benjamin G Gsr Special Needs Chair D23, Heather B Gsr D41, Marty M Gsr D90, Amanda Gsr Alt Dcm D42, Doreen L Gsr D70, Fred S Alt Gsr D70, Lorie L Gsr Web Master D11.

Anniversaries

Diane S October 24<sup>th</sup> 27yrs D28, Chuck D September 10<sup>th</sup> 21yrs D10, Keith B D22 November 3<sup>rd</sup> 22yrs, Rick L D12 November 20<sup>th</sup> 22yrs, Jim W October 9<sup>th</sup> 12yrs, Ed K D23 October 27<sup>th</sup> 11yrs, Ray M D22 November 11<sup>th</sup> 20yrs, Lisa S D40 September 17<sup>th</sup> 15yrs, Cheryl V November 27<sup>th</sup> 28yrs, Sharon R D23 October 10<sup>th</sup> 4yrs, George J December 11<sup>th</sup> 34yrs, Joe M D22 November 9<sup>th</sup> 23yrs, Bill H D42 October 20<sup>th</sup> 28yrs, Doreen L D70 October 30<sup>th</sup> 3yrs, Robert S November 16<sup>th</sup> 17yrs.

Twelve Concepts - read by Kat

Announcements by host district: Betty

Approval of Summer Assembly Minutes-The Summer Assembly minutes were accepted as written/or as corrected. The Summer Assembly minutes was approved.

Treasurer's Report, Judd W reported:

This report is being presented as of November 30, 2014. The following is our financial status as of this date.

	2014
Contributions/Income:	\$57,680.62
Expenses:	\$56,032.32
Excess of Income over expense	\$ 1,648.30

Current checking account	\$ 6,324.47
Current prudent reserve	\$17,835.00
Net Assets	\$24,159.47

2014 Primary Purpose Register

The 2014 primary purpose register thru November 30, 2014 is attached to this report. Actual expenses for each PPB and PPM are listed through November.

The Area sent a contribution of \$1,580.20 to GSO in September. Total contributions to GSO in 2014 are \$20,380.20.

PO Box 51, Lake Bluff has been renewed for 2015.

Can Contributions

Pink Can Fund: has received a total of \$7,699.82 YTD in contributions. We have spent \$8,616.50.

Green Can Fund: no activity

If you have any questions regarding this information or the attached financial reports please call or send me an email. Alex why there was no contributions to the green can? Judd- Because it is up to the groups of they want to contribute to the green can or not.

Finance Committee Report, Judd W reported: No activity

**Operating Committee Report**, Steve reported: No activity

**Delegate Report**, Cheryl V reported: It seems that this time of year is kind of quiet in the Delegate world. Reports on the 64<sup>th</sup> General Service Conference have all been delivered and the background for the 65<sup>th</sup> hasn't come out yet. That doesn't mean I've had nothing to do. It just means my work hasn't required a lot of driving.

One item that came to my inbox was a request from the Jim M. the Public Information (PI) staffer in New York regarding an anonymity break in the Chicago Tribune by a member in Lake County (District 12). I had hoped that I could skip this little issue during my tenure, but it isn't to be so. Although so far I have not been able to find a way to contact the member, it's on my list of things to do so that I might have a discussion.

The current Illinois Delegate's and Area Chairs have made a couple revisions to the State Conference Policy. These were to clarify questions that came up during the conference this year. One was to state clearly that the host committee was to offer no child care programs. This was seen as a risk that could present legal issues beyond what we would want to get into. Another change was to clarify when basic budget information would be reported, and the final change had to do with clarification of speakers and their reimbursable expenses.

Of note, Northern Illinois Area (NIA) will host the 2016 State Conference which will also include the East Central Regional Conference as part of it.

### **Highlights from AA World Services Board (AAWS) meeting October 31, 2014**

I will be forwarding on this full report after this meeting.

The 23rd World Service Meeting was held October 12-16, 2014 in Warsaw, Poland. Attending were 61 delegates representing 41 countries and zones. The two Trustees-at-large, one from the US and one from Canada, attended to represent our General Service Office (GSO). Four new countries participated for the first time: Czech Republic, Hong Kong, Iran and Romania.

At present over 27,000 people have registered to attend the 2015 International Convention that will be held in Atlanta over the 4<sup>th</sup> of July weekend.

The Corrections desk has received 4,870 letters and 2,742 emails through the third quarter of 2014. During these nine months, they linked 651 male alcoholics and 237 female alcoholics for a total of 888 through our Corrections Correspondence Service (C.C.S.).

For the first nine months of the year, through September 2014, total gross sales are \$14,345,500. For the sales month of September, prior to the implementation of the book price increase, we saw \$3,868,044 in actual gross sales. Sales in our two Online Stores (B2B for bulk orders and B2C for direct-to-consumer sales) accounted for 60.73% of all sales in the month of September. For the year to date, web orders are 53.5% of total sales for A.A. literature. A.A. Comes of Age (English) is now available as a digital book on the three major platforms: Kindle, Apple and Nook; the translations into French and Spanish are being worked on. As Bill Sees It is next in line for publication as an ebook.

The unaudited G.S.O. financial update for the 9 months ended September 30, 2014 showed:

Net sales	\$14,147,000
Gross Profit (Literature) \$	8,708,000
Contributions	\$ 4,911,000
Total operating expenses	\$11,379,000

Of note, despite a slight drop in contributions this quarter, we ended the quarter \$1,210,961.50 over budget due to increased sales before the October 1, 2014 literature increase.

### **Highlights from General Service Board (GSB) meeting November 3, 2014**

The Board approved a recommendation that the 35<sup>th</sup> millionth Big Book, Alcoholics Anonymous, be presented to the Sisters of Charity of St. Augustine at the 2015 International Convention. This is the order to which Sister Ignatia belonged. (You new comers are going to have to go looking for who she was. A hint: Try looking in AA Comes of Age.)

Phyllis H, General Service Office (GSO) general manager has announced that she will retire in October of 2015.

A special trilingual publications "A Brief History of the Big Book" was sent out with the Fall 2014 edition of Box 459. This covered the first English, Spanish and French editions.

Before the price increase of literature there was an increase in orders. This indicates that literature sales will be lower for the coming months. Of note, Hazelden placed a \$1.8 million dollar order.

Grapevine circulation of the printed version for the first 9 months was 74,254 and 5,286 for the online version. La Vina circulation was average of 10,426 for the same period. Both are currently doing well financially. Some of this is due to reduced costs. One of the projects that is underway is to move the Grapevine to the same floor as the GSO. This should help continue with cost reductions. However, subscriptions continue to go down.

The reports (which will be forwarded shortly) are starting to indicate some of the agenda items that may appear in February. While final decisions will not be made until the January meeting, some of these may be:

- A request for a book that is a compilation of Conference presentations. This would be derived from Conference Final Reports.
- A request to consider holding the General Service Conference (GSC) on the west coast on alternating years.
- Revisions to the pamphlet "Inside AA: Understanding the Fellowship and Its Service Agencies."
- Revisions to the pamphlet "Your AA General Service Office."
- A request for a Daily Reflections Volume 2

As noted, these are not yet fully approved agenda items, so some of them may not be seen in February.

In financial terms (something that I'm still trying to better comprehend) I'll only bring two more items. First is that we will continue for the next 5 years to put away money into the pension fund. This amount continues to be a need for \$1.5 million dollars per year. I think there was some Delegates who thought that this was not going to be needed or that we had finished. Things that create this need is fluctuations in the stock market, but other things do also; like the fact that people are generally living longer. If people live longer they require pension payments for longer periods. The other item I found interesting was that while we have slightly over \$14 million in our Reserve Fund, it is roughly 9.4 months of operating expenses. Worse yet is that they are only getting 0.5% interest. While that's better than the amount I get in my savings account, it's lower than I can get in a CD. I guess I thought you could get a great interest rate if you had big bucks.

### **Delegate's Sharing**

There have been an increased number of requests for Delegate's sharing. My guess is that rotation has something to do with it, meaning they wanted to find out something before they rotated out.

Area 78 requested Delegates to share what their Areas do regarding whether they have an electronics committee and if so what is the scope of their work, who was on the committee and were their guidelines. They also requested information on whether there was a webmaster and their role in the Area. Because I had recently replied with similar information to a request from Area 11, I did not respond to this one specifically, but simply forwarded my previous response.

Similarly an Area requested sharing about using cloud based storage. I have not had a chance to read this one yet.

There was a request from Area 84 regarding the a surge they were experiencing with members starting up Back to Basics Meetings based on Wally P's 'Recovery Model'. The majority of the Areas have chosen to view these groups as having autonomy. There were some however that chose not to recognize them as AA groups or to list them in their directories. These were the ones that specifically used the book by Wally P versus a conference approved literature meeting that simply had a name of Back to Basics.

An interesting one to read about is the way various Areas hold elections. Many mentioned using Third Legacy Procedure (for the newer people, the explanation is a bit too involved for here. But you can read about it in your Service Manual, our Area Handbook, or talk to me later.) At least two Areas specifically call the name of all current officers and DCMs and asks if they area available (about 160 people). They do this for each of the 8 officer's positions. Another Area does not elect their service chairs, these are selected by the Area Chair (generally after conferring with other area committee members),

after which they are confirmed at the next Assembly. What I found interesting is that in some Areas only current officers, committee chairs and DCMs are eligible to stand for the position of officer.

One kind of interesting one was regarding who can attend Area Committee Meetings. Of the 47 Delegates that responded, 5 had no meetings of this type, and 2 limited attendance to Area trusted servants. The other 40 relied that any AA member can attend.

### Upcoming Events

Rooms are still available through the Housing process for the International Convention in Atlanta next year. These include hotel and dorm accommodations.

The Conference of Delegates Past and Present will be held in Bay City, Michigan February 13 through 15<sup>th</sup>. Any and all are welcome to make the drive and attend.

Planning is underway for the Spring Conference Assembly; to be held in St. Charles, Illinois on March 27-29, 2015.

The 65<sup>th</sup> General Service Conference will be held April 18<sup>th</sup> through 25<sup>th</sup>. I've started to receive preliminary communication. Information requests should step up here in the next week or so as all the rotating Delegates should be elected by now.

The 42<sup>nd</sup> Annual Illinois State Conference will be hosted by Area 21, our sister Area to the south. This time we will not have to drive quite as far since it will be held in Normal, Illinois on August 28 through 30<sup>th</sup> next year.

**(Questions)**- Ray-The Big Book sales increase cost to the pension and the stock market. My question would be how much of the pension fund and the fluctuation of the stock market. It my understanding of the General Office to oversee this fund, do we want them too. Cheryl- I will be happy to have that conversation with Dave when I am at the General Service Office. I understand better when I am face to face. Ray- My concern is the Reserve fund is cash and the pension is in the stock market. Cheryl- If you would sit down with me before April 18<sup>th</sup> to draft some questions for me and we will get Terry involve that would be great. John- It's a question about the Past & Present Delegates Conference about the motion of the changes on how we do things and he wants it reported and how it effects the whole fellowship. Cheryl- is asking Rich H Past Delegate if he wants to answer John question.

Rich- I was on a conference call with John, Bob, and Randy. We wrote a motion and throughout the year we have altered the motion. We have 2 regional events in the east central region, it is broken up into 14 areas with between 2 or 3 and 4 areas with five states are Wisconsin, Michigan, Indiana, Ohio, and Illinois. One of the events is the Past & Present Delegates Conference and the East Central Region Conference. That was talked about the next time we have the state conference in Northern Illinois it would be the East Central Region Conference, because that travels around. With the Past & Present Delegates Conference everybody can come and registered and go to the banquet, and buy a meal package, but you can't participate in it. The conference is for training the newly elected delegate and alternate delegate for the General Service Conference. **The Motion-** For the 2015 East Central Region Conference of Past & Present Delegates and the East Central Conference to be combined them. The new name would be East Central Region Service Conference that would meet on the last weekend of February. The location of the conference will follow the current rotation of the East Central Region Conference of Past & Present Delegates, it will begin in the year 2018.

After the approval of this motion the current ECR Adhoc committee of eight people, I will throw out there later. Will become an advisory committee for the East Central Region Service Conference and will work with the hosting committee, them for 3yrs. This committee will develop the guidelines for the East Central Region Service Conference and will present them to the Past & Present Delegate Conference for their approval. The format would be all presentation of the upcoming issues at the General Services, committee breakout session, large breakout sessions, Central Region Business Meeting, that's where the past and present delegate and trustees talk business. There will be a chance to meet the Trustee Saturday morning and at the banquet, and on Friday you will have a chance to meet the Delegates and the Past Delegates, also at the banquet on Saturday night. This event would be more inviting to the whole fellowship in the East Central Region. The fellowship would be able to participate in every which way. Randy Past Delegate Area 75 Southern Wisconsin, John Past Delegate Area 20, Bob Past East Central Trustee and Past Delegate Area 74 Northern Wisconsin, Bill Delegate Area 22 Northern Indiana, Virginia Past Delegate Area 23 Southern Indiana, Art Past Delegate Area 32 Central Michigan, Mark Past Delegate Area 56 West Ohio. We think this will be a great event to see how things get done in other areas and to brainstorm, to change somethings. We got it great here people! We presented this at the East Central Region Past & Present Delegate in February it was tabled. They were surprise to have a few no's and a lot of we

will think about. We have people from each of the state talking to the rest of the people, and they are saying yeah this could be something different. If it's something you would be interested in and it's in Southern Wisconsin, Northern Illinois, Chicago. Then come to participate and to learn. We want you people to show up and talk, ask questions. (Question) I understand that the General Service Office puts on these conferences like the Forum. Would this Conference be independent of itself from the other one? Rich- The Forum is totally different it brings the General Service Office to you.

The assembly broke for Service Committee Breakout Meetings.

### Conference Reports

1. 2014 Big Book Conference Jeff L – The conference was well attended. Preregistration was 145 that was both conference and lunch, and 10 conference only so totaled of 155 preregistered. Walk in was 108 for both conference and lunch, and 34 only for conference, so it brings the total of 142 onsite registration. We had 30 online registrations with pay pale charges of \$25.60 we voted to pay the charges ourselves since we thought the online registration would be low. We budgeted for 400 conference and meals at the cost of \$2,800, and the actual cost was \$1,777.00. We had committed to many lunches since we had to do it a week ahead. The rentals for the tables and chairs cost \$604.00. The programs came out to \$800.00. The contract with the church was to pay 10% of our registration and a \$100.00 for Audio, the total for the church was \$500. Our total cost of our speakers were \$2,011.22. We had one speaker staying at the hotel for 1 night and the other stayed 2 night. We purchased gift baskets from money donated from District 40 for appreciation for them coming out. We came out with a surplus of \$263.13 after paying back the seed money of \$2,500.00.
2. 2015 Spring Conference, Joe M. – A few things are moving along fairly nicely. We are taking registrations today if anyone would like to sign up. It's going to be at Pheasant Run it is a really nice place and they just remodel the tower and it looks great. We are taking over the whole facility and expecting everybody her to show up with your partners. There is couple sticking points that we are going to go over at our next meeting this will be next Sunday at 3pm please come out. One of them is the special needs, if we need to get a signer or wait till one is indicated that we need one. Our committee has made our decision about it. Our Delegate is coming out to help us with that. Also District 71 will be hosting the Assembly. Finally I want to say that we had a great turned out. Chris and Betty has been working on the program, and has sent out invites to the Area Committee Chairs to participate in this conference. We got to remember this a service conference and we are expecting anywhere from 600 to 800 people there. Let's have some fun.
3. 2015 Bid for the Big Book Conference- Ed District 21 Palatine. When we meet tomorrow that would be 4 times that we would have met. We have come down to 3 choices on the theme, and we will be voting on that tomorrow. We have filled the positons of the co-chairs, secretaries, treasurers, and registrations, and also program chairs. We have secured a location Palatine High School. We have not of today secured the keynote speaker and the other speaker. We have requested some quotes for lunch, and we are trying to keep it in the \$7-8 range. We have a date for it, October Saturday 24<sup>th</sup> 2015. We voted for District 21 to host The Big Book Conference. It was approved.

### New Business

1. Elections of:
  - Treatment Facilities Chair - Wezie District 90 and Alternate?
  - BTG Chair & Alternate (Mike H 14, Rich H 54) Chair Rich H, Alt Chair Mike H
  - Alternate Archives Chair- Lisa Snipes
  - Alternate CPC
  - Alternate PI
2. Approve Area Calendar 2015 it was approved as is.
3. Approve Area Primary Purpose Register 2015- Judd W- Is there any questions for Judd. **(Questions)** Rich- I don't know if you use a multiplier per the number of the committees. Did you already add the value number or altered the ppbs for the extra committee, ppb 3, and 4, and 8, and 11, and 17. Judd- Yes we did and we did not change the numbers because we are under spending. Robert- \$2800 for ppb 11 and ppb 5 budgeted for \$3000 and either time on that one we spent less than \$500. I was asking specifically for ppb5. Judd- Ppb5 is for service orientation workshops only. I know we under spent for 2014, because there was not that demand for the workshops. To generate the demand lets plan on doing what we were asked to do. Joe- I have a question about ppb14 the actual and expected is substantial different. Judd- Right so in 2014 we planned a \$1,000. You hope the spring conference will be self-supporting and make lots of money like it did last year, but you want to budget it in case it doesn't. It was approve

4. Bids for 2016 State Conference & The East Central Region Conference- No one. We will bring it up at the next assembly.

5. Proposed wording for submission in the Area Service Manual by R&C Committee on BTG - At the fall assembly we approved a motion to have a bridging the gap committee. How it would change the duties of the treatment and corrections chair if we had the BTG committee. We are doing today is taking the motion and the translation of the motion and what it would look like for the book.

(Questions) Heather- has the current area chair been consulted on this. Rob has seen it. Carol- Is there a clarification currently about this in our handbook about this being done, I don't remember. When we put together the motion to create this committee, we weren't considering that to be the guidelines. On the basic understanding on what that committee would do. Robert- that's the responsibility of the report and charter committee to do and make responsibility & duties, and turn them into guidelines. Carol- My concern is that I put together the motion to add the BTG weekend workshop for the assembly to vote and I was told I didn't need to that it would be part of responsibility of the committee, but it's not. Robert- I don't know how to answer that. Carol- I thought the report & charter was going to make the guidelines for this. Robert- This is what it is. They took the wording from the motion to make what the committee is and what it would do. Carol- Is that process documented somewhere. Robert- It's not. Carol- Then how is it determined then? Robert- The report & charter responsibility is to make changes to the handbook that needs to be done. Barb- I have this really important question is it Bridge the Gap or Bridging the Gap? Robert- The name of the committee is Bridge the Gap. Joe- Does it make any sense to question it now or wait awhile for the committee to do some work then come back to it. Rob states that have to come up with responsibilities and duties for the Bridging the Gap Committee. Larry- My answer to Joes question is no, because that is a service committee and it gets finance and if there is nothing in the duties and responsibility document they won't get finance. Betty it is crossed off to attend the BTG annual weekend it is vital to attend. Robert- It was not approved by the assembly. Rob maintains a database of temporary contact voluntaries. Carmella to be connected with GSO of voluntaries in respected area. Heather- Made a motion to table this motion to send it back to a committee. Rob seconds it. 37 favor and 21 Opposed. The motion passed. The committee is Carol, Rich and Mike put together what your ideas of your duties and responsibilities would be. Then report that to the Report and Charter Committee.

6. Motion by R&C Committee concerning the Area Service Manual- (unbridged) John- The area chair Robert asked the area committee their census on what handbook they would like to see. They wanted everything in the handbook. (Questions) The unbridged version is \$5.31 a copy? John- We have printed about 4,000 copies of the bridged version. I have no idea how many we have printed of the unbridged version. I am looking at a \$1,000 increase for this move. John- that's correct. I have another question a committee or 2 ago at an assembly there was 2 different motions and a 3<sup>rd</sup> to kill the GSR handbook and at the last second there was a motion to combine these to motions together is that true? John- No they were 2 separate motions. Cheryl- Clarity that we printed 4,000 Gsr handbooks last year? John- We got that from the area treasurer. Cheryl- So the bridged handbook cost about a \$1.00 an issue, so your saying that we will be going from a \$4,000 cost up to a \$20,000 cost for the unbridged version? John- No because we will only be printing only 1,000 copies. Cheryl- What will happen when we run out especially since last year we printed 4,000 copies? John- That would be up to the primary purpose and the assembly wouldn't it be. Cheryl- So every time we use up 1,000 copies we have to go back to the assembly. John- Yes that's how we keep accountable. Jeff- It was brought by our last concept editor to have the Gsr handbook printed and then have the assembly appendix printed at once but they would be 2 separate documents. John- It was a point of order at a committee meeting during a sharing time, but at the end of the day we decided not to do any separation of any kind. The official NIA handbook would be the whole 128 pages. Jeff- Okay, That portion of it has been discussed with the report and charter committee? John- Yes it has. Jeff- I bring up because this way would up with the cost that Cheryl was talking about. Carmille- Why do we see a motion that is not in the ppm format? I am curious why this appears different from the other ppms that have come before us. The second piece I concern is with where people is getting the quantity of 1,000. This motion does not tell me how many we are going to print? John- This is not a primary purpose motion. Kelly- I am in disagreement with this motion, because it does not say how many we are going to print. That we should say if you don't show up to assembly or committee meeting you don't get one. I would like to see them go back to their districts and have people read them. Then maybe they would want to come to these meetings. Judd- There is nothing in the Gsr handbook that is not in the unbridged version. My observation is the numbers we are throwing around does not make any sense. This motion says to give it to the Area officer's committee chairs, Dcm's, and Gsr. The printing would be probably less than 5,000. John- This is what I heard from the Dcm's and Committee members, but today we are saying something different. 19 for and 40 against motion fails

7. Motion by Manus concerning the Area Service Manual unbridged Manus- #1 that the unbridged version be printed and distributed to all members that requested a copy of it. There will be a 1,000 printed and if more is needed then we will print

another 1,000. The cost should be covered by NIA, and make no charges to recipients. John- I would like to know how this item got on this agenda when it wasn't discussed at the committee meeting or distributed to the dcm's or the groups. Robert- Because for the last year we have been discussing what to do with the handbook. So I think it's fair to say that everyone has had a chance to weigh in about the handbook, that's why it's there. Terry- This is a new motion and it would need a second, and it would have to be approved by the assembly today to even consider it. Otherwise it would have to be refer to committee. It's not an amendment that has been on the floor, it is new business. Robert- Manus you do have a second, I second it for the matter of discussion. Terry- It still needs to be approved today by this assembly. Manus- Chairman this a floor motion, I do have a second like I told you. 41 in favor and apposed 13. The motion passes. **(Questions)** Kim- Would the Bridge version still be printed. Manus- I didn't address the bridge version. Kelly- I have a question that you said that the area chair would be responsible to appoint someone for the updates and printing of the handbook. We do have a NIA Service manual custodian wouldn't he be the one doing those things? Manus- My understanding is that the concept editor has been printing the bridge handbook and Judd has been doing the unbridged handbook for sale. Judd- The custodian is responsible to take the information from the report and charter committee and physically putting in the book. Manus- I would accept that has a friendly amendment that it would be the service manual custodian. Ray- That number 1,000 was just a mere suggestion, because that would be updates to it all the time. Manus- I came to that cost, because the cost for a 1,000 was reasonable. Laura- We really like the GSR, because it's much smaller to be carrying around. We can just go to the internet to get the other one and it's free. John- Judd at the summer Assembly as he stated that he was doing this out of his goodness of his heart. He was the handbook service custodian. Robert- There has been called the Gsr handbook and what is called the NIA unbridged handbook, there are also documents that was put into a book formed. People saw it and liked it so they printed them for the people that wanted them. Joe-Maybe that the chair put together adhoc committee to look at both of these books. Robert- Are you asking this to send it back to a committee. Joe- Calls the questions. The motion Fails

Robert asked that the area committee chair and alt please submit your report in written to the secretary. Also if anybody is rotating into service work in please let us know we can get you a name badge, also let the registrar know too.

### **Service Committee Chair Reports**

Archives, \_\_\_ reported:

Grapevine, \_\_\_ reported:

Literature, \_\_\_ reported:

PI, \_\_\_ reported:

Corrections, \_\_\_ reported:

Answering Service, \_\_\_ reported: Today we are hoping to have a nice turn-out for a break away session with the district chairs. All the district answering services have been called, the chairs have been e-mailed and called. This is simply to get an idea on how te districts feel it's going, and where or if we can improve, save money, get THEIR ideas, etc. Lets pray for a good turn out. Robert and I are continuing to work on our "How To Find A.A. In Illinois" Northern Illinois Area 20 map.

Special Needs, \_\_\_ reported:

Secretary, \_\_\_ reported:

Treatment Facilities, \_\_\_ reported:

Web Administrator, John C reported:

#### ***Current activities***

- Assisted configuring the Spring Conference website for the new committee's needs.
- Continued the process of updating the list of district website administrators with the eventual goal of establishing a collaborative support forum. The project is nearing completion and I hope to roll out the forum in the first quarter of 2015.
- Compiled a list of the web development platforms used in all other Areas and have contacted several to get their experiences.
- Completely mapped the structure and inventoried the documents on the current site.
- Contacted NAATW (National AA Technology Workshop) leaders regarding their mission of assisting AA in accommodating technology in our traditions and activities. I volunteered to be active in conducting their next national event in October 2015.
- Investigating any technology-oriented sessions that might be presented at the International Convention. I have not identified any so far, but there is plenty of time.

### *New projects*

Identify potential Alternate Website Administrator candidates for appointment after the next rotation. Refresh aa-nia.org content and redesign it to accommodate mobile devices. This is an excellent opportunity to take an inventory and build the best site possible. The first step is to determine how the site is currently used and to identify enhancements. In that regard, I'm asking all assembly attendees to let me know what you like and/or dislike about our website. GSRs, please ask your groups how they use the area website and also what they like and or dislike about it. Please send any feedback you have to webmaster1@aa-nia.org.

And please accept my best wishes for happy, safe and sober holidays.

Electronic Equipment Committee, \_\_\_ reported:

Report & Charter, \_\_\_ reported

DCM Breakout, \_\_\_ reported:

Treasurer's Breakout, \_\_\_ reported:

### **Officer Reports**

Alternate Treasurer, Judd W reported:

Alternate Delegate, Kelly L reported: Since our last assembly I presented a service orientation workshop combined with the delegate post conference report on October 11th held in Keweenaw for districts 90 and 91. There was great attendance with lots of questions and discussion. I have heard from one district requesting a workshop either in January or February. Please let me know what you would like to have presented and I will work on getting the appropriate members there.

The PPB5 with the service activity of Service Orientation workshops has an expectation of hosting roughly eight per year. We will be starting the New Year and I am looking forward to being able to use all eight next year.

I attended the 2014 Big Book Conference and also attended the final meeting where members of district 21, who will be hosting the 2015 Big Book Conference, were in attendance.

I sent out the Delegate Quarterly Contribution reports to all the DCM and their alternates. Thank you to the DCMs who acknowledged receiving them. If any of the DCMs did not receive an e-mail with the reports please let me know and I can resend.

Alternate Chair, Marilyn F reported: I would like to welcome everyone and thank District 61 for hosting this event!

Since the last Assembly held on September 13, 2014 I have attended the following:

09/14/2014 – 2015 Spring Assembly/Conference Planning meeting (walk-through @ Pheasant Run)

09/21/2014 – 2015 Spring Assembly/Conference Planning meeting

10/05/2014 – 2014 Big Book Conference Planning meeting

10/11/2014 – Service Orientation Workshop in Keweenaw

11/09/2014 – 2015 Big Book Conference Planning meeting

11/16/2014 – 2014 Big Book Conference wrap-up meeting

11/16/2014 – 2015 Spring Assembly/Conference Planning meeting

11/23/2014 – 2015 Big Book Conference Planning meeting

### **A COUPLE OF NOTES TO REPORT:**

At the 2015 Spring Assembly/Conference planning meeting there was much discussion regarding "is there a need of having ASL and Spanish Translation at the "Conference" portion of the weekend." I believe they will discuss this at the microphone today.

At the 2015 Big Book Conference planning meeting there was discussion about how it does not mention exactly which committee is to secure the speaker(s) knowledgeable in the history of the Big Book (Page 94). I believe they might discuss this at the microphone today as well.

Secretary, Nicole E reported: Please send your reports from today's meeting to me electronically. If you require a new or replacement name badge, please let me know.

Registrar, Dawn B reported: TO THE ROTATING DISTRICTS, PLEASE EMAIL ME ALL POSITION CHANGES AS SOON AS POSSIBLE AFTER ELECTIONS. THERE IS A PERIOD OF TIME IN LATE DECEMBER/EARLY JANUARY WHERE REGISTRARS CANNOT ACCESS FNV. PLEASE GET THEM IN EARLY. THANK YOU.



Since we will be sending minutes via e-mail, please check with me or your DCM to be sure that your e-mail is correct in FNV.

In FNV the Registrar can search for groups or individuals and do instant updates.

It is no longer necessary to send group information updates to both NIA and GSO. All information update requests can be sent to the area registrar at registrar@aa-nia.org.

New e-mail address for the Area Registrar: The new e-mail address for the Area Registrar is: registrar@aa-nia.org.  
PLEASE MAIL ALL CHANGES TO NIA20 REGISTRAR, Box 196, 684 S. Barrington Rd (4B Plaza) STREAMWOOD IL 60107

*Information updates since 10/11/2014*

Requests input between 10/11/14 and 11/29/14

<b>Total Since 10/11/2014</b>	
Group information	10
New groups/Pending Active	6
Folded/Inactive/Unknown	4
Group contact information	2
District/Individual contacts	1
Area contacts	2
<b>Total updates</b>	<b>25</b>

We will continue to send welcome letters from the area to new GSRs. The packets include the following:

- a welcome letter from the area
- a snapshot of the group's information from FNV
- NIA contribution envelope

Chair, Robert S reported: There have been multiple emails regarding the motions about our area handbooks. There have also been multiple conversations about what to do – do we continue to have two books, do we eliminate the smaller one and only have the big one, do we take the 12 documents that make up the big one and re-write them into one cohesive “book” or what.

In the process of putting together my appointments for the administrative committees I have decided to appoint two additional people to the Report and Charter Committee. I have done this to add some additional talent to the committee. That is not to say that the current members are not qualified or have not done what they have been asked to do. Quite the contrary, I believe that they have performed well. However, I believe that it is time to take a serious look at what we have and to go through it, page by page even line by line, in order to have a real Service Manual. So I am adding two people that will be able to help the existing committee members.

I have almost completed the people that I will appoint to the administrative committees and positions and hope to have the last ones lined up by the end of today's meeting.

The calendar, for next year, has all the host districts/groups identified. All we need now is to finalize the locations. Again, I hope to have that done by the end of today's meeting.

### Open Mic

Nathan- January 17<sup>th</sup> First Baptist there will be an Aa Literature workshop, the first part of the workshop is called “What's in the pamphlet”. Then we will be talking about the internet. Everyone should come on down it's from 12-3, it should be a good time.

Jeff- I don't want to beat a horse to death, but I already have started discussions with the reporter & charter committee on the proposal.

Joe-We have an opening for the second half of the rotation, if anyone is interested in service work and would like to help me with cpc and want to know what it is come see me.

Jim-Ditto with what Joe said, but with Pi. D91 is having a series of workshops the first one would be January 17<sup>th</sup> it is called anonymity on the internet.

Tina- You district 22, and 64 and 20 is hosting the spring assembly conference and if any districts are having any big events, and would like to invite registration to set up a table just give me a call or Kristen my co-chair.

Rich- the International is coming up in Atlanta this summer over the 4<sup>th</sup> of July weekend. In conjunction with Wisconsin on getting a bus trip going to the conference. If it is going to work we will have to fill the bus up with 56 people. If you are interested let me know. It would cost roughly \$185.00. You can also let Bonnie know too.

Cheryl- If you want good reading you can pick up the general service conference final report, before I get new ones. If you guys don't take them I would have to them home with me.

Larry- I am also getting together a motorcycle run to the international conference, it will cost more and take longer, but it will be so much fun.

Adjournment.